

DRAFT

Rockville Environment Commission Minutes of the Meeting of Thursday, April 2, 2015 Diamondback Conference Room, City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland

Attendance

Commissioners Present: John Becker, Steve Cardon (arrived late 8:15), Scott Clausen, Alicia Hosmer (arrived late 7:30), Amanda Matheny, Clark Reed, Lea Rosenbohm, Steve Sprague and Helen Triolo

Commissioners Absent: None

Guests: Mark Charles, Environmental Management
Stephanie Reddick – Interested Resident

Meeting Commencement

The meeting convened at 7:00 pm by Chair Reed.

Introduction of Guests

Introductions were dispensed with since all attendees were familiar with each other.

Meeting Agenda Review and Revision

No changes were made to the draft agenda.

Approval of the March 5, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Becker moved and Commissioner Clausen seconded a motion to approve the March 5, 2015 meeting minutes. The motion passed 7-0-0 with Commissioners Cardon and Hosmer absent for the vote.

Residential Solar Initiative

COG has selected the Community Power Network to be the vendor implementing the area residential solar power initiative. The Commission has volunteered to assist in promoting the program throughout the community. A kickoff meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 18 and a second one is scheduled for May 5. Approximately 50 people are expected at each meeting.

Commissioner Triolo volunteered to attend the April 6 Mayor and Council meeting and raise these events to the public's attention. Commissioners also intend to distribute meeting leaflets to residents and commercial properties. Commissioners also intend to meet up with residents at informal forums at the Dawson Market in Town Center.

Chair Reed also suggested the Commission consider participating in the Memorial Day Parade (The deadline for a float application is April 3). However, the Commissioners decided to not sign up for the parade.

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Environmental Excellence Award Nominations

The awards for Kris Dighe and Tri State Ice Management are being presented at the April 20 Mayor and Council meeting. Commissioners Matheny, Becker, Hosmer, Rosenbohm and Clausen intend to attend the presentation.

Several additional nominations have been received by Environmental Management and forwarded to Commissioners (the Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee & a Passive House located on Harrison Street. After a brief discussion, the Commission determined to table the nominations for the time being.

Judging Recycling Posters Designed by Students in the Rockville After-School Program

Commissioners examined and selected the top four posters. The winning posters will be posted on the City Website. The overall winner will receive a \$20 gift card, and the three runner ups will each receive \$10 dollar gift cards.

Planning for Maryvale Creek Clean Up Event, Rockville Science Day and Hometown Holidays

Maryvale Clean Up is scheduled for Saturday, April 11 from 10-12 am. Event is sponsored by the Watershed Committee.

Rockville Science Day is Sunday, April 26 from 1-5 pm. Commissioners Matheny, Triolo, Hosmer, Becker, Clausen and Sprague intend to attend the Rockville Science Day event.

Hometown Holidays: The Commission intends to staff a booth on Saturday, May 23, from 2-6. Similarly, the second day (Sunday) will be offered to the Bike Advisory Committee.

A film (*Carbon Nation*) will again be screened Friday evening May 22 at 7:00 pm in the Mayor and Council Chambers and again on Saturday afternoon (2:00) in the Rockville library. Environmental Management will send a "Save the Date" notice to the VIP list previously used for past Friday eve screenings. Commissioner Cardon volunteered to draft the "hold the date" notice. Commissioner Triolo will post on the Commission's Facebook page and her Blog. The Commission will need to obtain speakers for the Saturday screening (Environmental Management will arrange to rent the film, and supply the laptop and the projector).

Environmental Management Report

Erica Shingara has tendered her resignation. Her last day in the office is Thursday, April 2. Commissioners are asked to encourage qualified applicants to apply.

Mark Charles debriefed on the Mayor and Council proclamation declaring Earth Day and Earth Month in Rockville. Mr. Charles also previewed the events on Earth Day, April 22 (45th anniversary) itself. Commissioners should visit the City website for a full list of Earth Month activities.

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The amendments to Chapter 5 (Green Buildings and Building Codes) were introduced by the Mayor and Council on March 30, 2015. A public hearing on the package will be scheduled in mid-April.

The Watts Branch Assessment is back on track. A copy will be emailed to the Commission in May and is expected to go to the Mayor and Council in late June.

New Business

No new business was raised.

Adjourn

Commissioner Cardon moved and Commissioner Becker seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously (8-0-0) at 9:15 pm.

Next Commission Meeting

The next Commission meeting is *tentatively* scheduled for **Thursday, May 7, 2015 at 7:00 pm** in the **Diamondback Conference Room at the Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville Maryland 20850-2321**. The public is invited to attend.